



LAUGHING BEAR NEWSLETTER 103

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The Surviving Small Press: The Directory

Enclosed with this issue is a copy of *Laughing Bear Newsletter's Directory of Organizations for Small Presses and Self-Publishers*, which lists 30 groups in the US, Canada, and England.

All the organizations were sent a questionnaire, and many responded. Those that did not are still listed. You can contact them directly for membership information. Hopefully, the next edition of the directory will be more complete.

An online version of the directory will be available soon at <http://www.LaughingBear.com>, and any additions or corrections that come in will be posted there until another print edition comes out next year.

There wasn't as much response to this project as I had hoped, but now that the first edition is out it should gain credibility with the organizations and more will participate. I consider it a work in progress. The response I did receive was enough encouragement for me to keep at it.

The *Directory of Publisher Organizations* is published as a service to the small press community, so feel free to photocopy it. But please give *Laughing Bear Newsletter* credit for the publication.



Dreambirds

by David Ogden with illustrations by Judy Bergsma
Illumination Arts, PO Box 1865, Bellevue, WA 98009; 32 pp, 9 x 11¼, hardbound, \$16.95 + \$2.00 p&h

Natsama is a young man of a coastal tribe in the Pacific Northwest. As a boy his grandmother told him about the mystical dreambird. If he could find it he'd receive a great gift.

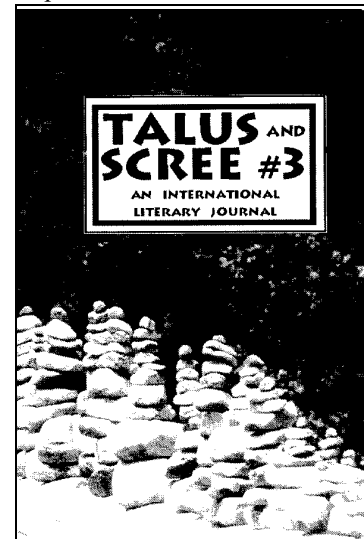
Dreambirds is about Natsama's quest, first becoming a hunter to kill it and claim the gift. Failing that, with his grandmother's guidance, he discovers the real power is within himself.

This is a beautiful and inspiring children's book, illustrated richly with paintings inspired by the Native American art of the Northwest.

Talus and Scree

Carla Perry, Ed.
PO Box 455, Yachats, OR 97498; <http://www.teleport.com/~cbs/talus>; 188 pp, 5½ x 8½, perfect, \$20/2 issues

Talus and Scree is a young literary magazine that has already attracted an impressive roster of writers.



Issue #3 includes work by Hugh Fox, John Bennett, A.D. Winans, Laurel Speer, and other long time small press writers.

The address given above is new, for those of you familiar with the magazine. An online version is available at their web site.

Talus and Scree uses poetry, short fiction (including novel excerpts), memoirs, interviews, line drawings, and photographs.

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Lite and Luscious Cuisine of India

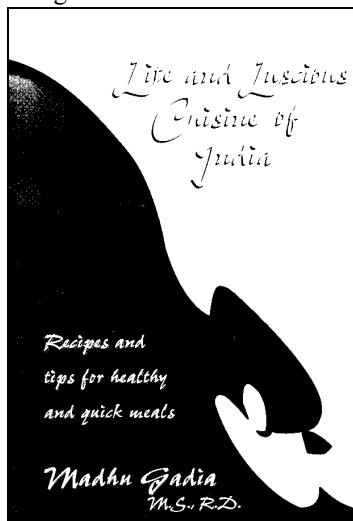
by Madhu Gadia
Piquant Publishing, PO Box 784, Ames, IA 50010; 320 pp, 6¼ x 9¼, cloth, \$19.95 + \$3.00 p&h

Madhu Gadia was born in India. The family lived in a cosmopolitan university town in north India, and her mother enjoyed cooking dishes from regions all over India.

Seeing the growing popularity of Indian food in Ames, Iowa, where she lives now, she began teaching classes. The recipes she learned from her mother weren't written down, so in the process of writing them for her classes, the book came about.

Gadia is a registered dietician, certified diabetes educator, and has an M.S. in foods and nutrition. This book is unique in that it includes the nutritional breakdown of each dish, with tips on meal planning and accommodating diabetic diets.

The books features beautiful (and irresistible) color photos of the dishes as well as lots of good information on healthy eating and great food.

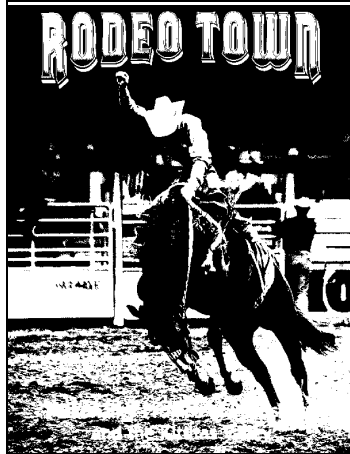


Rodeo Town

by John Bennett
Vagabond Press, PO Box 1634, Ellensburg, WA 98926; 80 pp, 8½ x 11, perfect, \$12.00 + \$2.00 p&h

John Bennett has been known a long time as a fiction writer. In his stories, characters are richly drawn and believable.

In 1992 Bennett began writing a column for Ellensburg's *Daily Record* and later for *Ellensburg Weekly*.

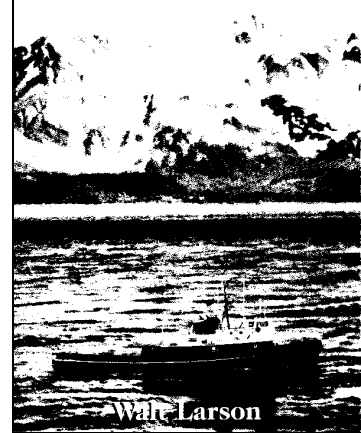


Rodeo Town is a collection of those essays. Each column profiles a local person. At first glance these are just regular people, but Bennett finds something remarkable in each of them.

What emerges from the columns is a portrait of Ellensburg as a living and vibrant community. People drift in on their way to somewhere and something about the town makes them stay. Or they started out there and were drawn back. A few lucky one's have lived there all their lives.

Rodeo Town may not make you want to move to Ellensburg, but it will make you take a closer look at the people around you.

From The Wilderness



From the Wilderness

by Walt Larson
Karmichael Press, HC3, Box 155D, Port St. Joe, FL 32456-9536; 288 pp, 5½ x 8½, perfect, \$14.95 + \$3.00 p&h; <http://www.hometown.com/karmike>

Half Native American, half White, Toby Jensen doesn't feel he belongs in either world. A shaman tells him of his vision of Toby leaving Alaska, finding evil in the outside world, but ultimately finding peace.

From the Wilderness is a vivid and fast-moving novel tracing Toby's journey from his home in Alaska to his adventures at sea and in port. As captain of an ocean-going tug, he proves himself as good as any man. On shore he's treated like just another drunken Indian.

Drawing on personal experience, Native American writer Larson masterfully tells the story of Toby's descent into despair and struggle to redemption, while addressing tough issues of racism, alcoholism, crooked cops, and dirty union politics in this riveting first novel.

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The Funny Things Kids Say Will Brighten Any Day, Vols. I and II

by Grace Witwer Housholder with watercolors by Debbie Rittenhouse
Vanatech Press, Box 55, Kendallville, IN 46755; 151 pp each, 7¼ x 10½, perfect, \$15.00 each

Housholder is an award-winning journalist and mother of four who has written a weekly "Funny Kids" column for three Indiana newspapers since 1987. The column can also be found online at <http://www.noblecan.org/~tghous>.

These little stories and observations are collected from those columns.

This is also an interactive book in that parents are urged to use them to keep a diary of their own kids' funny stories. The back of the book has plenty of space for entries, and parents are also encouraged to send in their favorites to be used in the column and future volumes in this series.

The books are generously illustrated with Rittenhouse's watercolors.

Announcements

- **Maui Writers Retreat** (contact Paul Polk; PO Box 1118, Kihei, HI 96753; 808-879-0061; <http://www.maui.net/~writers>) will be held at the Grand Wailea resort September 4-7, 1998. The retreat not only offers workshops, but also gives authors the chance to meet with literary agents.
- **The POIESIS Poetry Guide for Colorado** (O'Neill Publishing, PO Box 53, Indian Hills, CO 80454; <http://www.sni.net/probook/poiesis.html>; 74 pp, \$8.95) is the first and only guide to poetry resources in Colorado. The guide lists venues, coffee shops and booksellers, events, workshops, literary programs, and resources for poets and poetry publishers. A great resource if you're planning a visit to Colorado.
- **The Museum of American Poetics** (<http://www.ecentral.com/members/jimcohn>) features lectures from its American Poet Greats series monthly from the Boulder Bookstore. Colorado Poets deliver multimedia talks on the poet(s) who were a strong influence for them.
- **Small Press Month.** Last year Small Press Week was sponsored by PMA and the Small Press Center. This year they've decided to celebrate the entire month of March. Details will be available at the PMA web site: <http://www.pma-online.org>.
- **Big Daddy's Makin' Biscuits** (R. Eirik Ott; Sanctum Sanctorum Productions, PO Box 1467, Chico, CA 95927-1467; <http://www.ecst.csuchico.edu/~thrust>; \$5) is a new personal zine/chapbook of rants from the editor of *Thrust Magazine*.

- **Has your domain name been taken?** You can check by clicking on the WebCow ad at the bottom of Laughing Bear's home page (<http://www.LaughingBear.com>). It will take you to a page where you can search to see if the name you'd like is already being used. There's no obligation to use WebCow's registration service, but they are my web site host, and the technical support is great.
- **Interbang** (Heather Hoffman, Mark Adam Hartzell, eds.; PO Box 1574, Venice, CA 90294; <http://www.interbang.net>; free) is a literary magazine "dedicated to perfection in the art of writing". They've just published their 5th issue. Uses poetry and fiction. Accepts submissions by e-mail or regular mail. Writer's guidelines can be requested at writersguide@interbang.net.
- **Omnium Gatherum & Newsletter** (Squaw Valley Community of Writers, PO Box 2352, Olympic Valley, CA 96146) is an annual newsletter that gives news of the organization, of course, but also useful articles for poetry, fiction, and screen writers. Write for a copy.

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